

MINUTES
DESIGN COMMITTEE OF THE BOSTON CIVIC DESIGN COMMISSION

January 25, 2022

5:00pm, Held virtually via Zoom

Project: **Harvard Enterprise Research Campus**

Present: Commissioner Linda Eastley, Commissioner David Manfredi, Commissioner Jonathan Evans, and Commissioner Kathy Kottaridis

DISCUSSION:

The project team gave an overview of what has been seen in design committee thus far and focused on responding to previous questions from Commissioners about how the buildings work together as a composition, how the building entrances are experienced on the ground floor experience, and how the 'treehouse' conference center building works. Commissioners commented that the corner of the treehouse where Western Ave meets East Drive feels very back door and is extremely opaque considering the primacy of the corner, and suggested that an active wrapper would be an improvement at both the ground and upper level. Commissioners also asked if the ground floor of the tree house could be decreased to increase the porosity of the site and make the top floor appear to float more. Commissioners commented that the updated design of the lab building connector and entrances was well done, and that they appreciated the updates to the hotel building facade. Additionally, the loggia of the lab building frames the greenway well.

The Project will continue in design committee.

6:00pm, Held virtually via Zoom

Project: **289 Walk Hill Street**

Present: Commissioner Linda Eastley, Commissioner David Manfredi, Commissioner Kathy Kottaridis and Commissioner Eric Howeler

DISCUSSION:

This project was approved by the BCDC in 2017 with the proviso that the project come back to the BCDC for an additional design committee and ratifying vote. The project team gave an overview of the project's context and design. Commissioners commented that it would be good for the developer to address taking care of the opposite side of the creek, as opposed to ending at the property line. Commissioners also commented that material changes are most convincing when there are accompanying volumetric changes. Additionally, there are many different materials being used, and simplifying the palette might be a positive change.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Comments sought to clarify ownership of the opposite side of the creek and ongoing requests from the Conservation Commission. They also expressed a desire to have more balconies for the units and a lower massing along American Legion Hwy.

The Project will return to the full Committee.